REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 18 and 25-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b). Claims 2-17, 19-20 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a). Claims 22-23 were rejected for double patenting.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 22-23 were rejected for double patenting because the Office Action alleges that claims 22-23 are a substantial duplicate of claim 24.

Applicants have responded by amending claim 24.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b)

Claims 1, 18 and 25-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent Number 6,266,405 issued to Madour on July 24, 2001.

Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection for the following reasons. First, applicants' claim 1 recites,

"a portability component that runs on a hardware component automatically updates one or more provisioning components to port a directory number for a duration of time, wherein the portability component communicates with a management component through employment of one or more protocols to update one or more local number portability databases, at least one of the one or more protocols being a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)."

Madour does **not** teach these limitations. Instead, Madour discloses a technique for providing portability of internet addresses across telecommunication and data communication networks. In Madour, conventional number portability request invoke messages, e.g., ANSI 41 NPREQ, and the number portability request return result messages, e.g., ANSI41 npreq, are modified to include additional information. The additional information includes a new optional routing address parameter, "Routing IP Address," that permits routing of the call on an IP network towards the ported Internet service provider, e.g., voice over IP, and a new "Ported Gateway Capabilities" parameter that specifies the protocol capabilities of the ported gateway, as stated in

column 5, lines 37-57.   <u>Madour discloses that the protocol capabilities of the ported</u> <u>gateway include options such as SIP, H.323, etc.</u>, a stated in column 6, lines 17-23. Madour discloses in column 6, line 44 to column 7, line 7,

"A flow diagram of the operation of the exemplary embodiments discussed above is shown in FIG. 5. When a communication is initiated 110, the switching center/end user terminal/network node (117, FIG. 6) will initiate 111 a Number Portability Request message (118, FIG. 6) to the NPDB (30, FIG. 6) which will include the "Transaction Capability" parameter. The NPDB then determines 112 whether the "Transaction Capability" parameter indicates that the MSC/end user terminal/network node is capable of initiating Internet calls to a destination IP address. If internet addressing is not supported, meaning that the originating domain is not able to set-up an internet call to the ported internet service provider, the NPDB will return 113 an LRN in E.164 format that is the address of the closest gateway to the ported internet service provider (ISP) capable of performing protocol conversion. <u>If, however, Internet addressing is</u> <u>supported, the NPDB further analyzes the ported address to determine whether</u> <u>the ported address is a text address 114</u>. If the ported address is a text address, then the NPDB queries a directory name server to request the IP address which corresponds to the text address.

The NPDB then returns 115 the IP address to which the called subscriber is ported to the originating MSC/end user terminal/network node via the "Routing IPAddress" parameter (119, FIG. 6). <u>The NPDB additionally returns 120 the</u> <u>available protocol options of the ported gateway via the "Ported Gateway</u> <u>Capabilities" parameter. The originating domain (i.e., the mobile switching center,</u> <u>end user terminal, or network node), then selects 122 one of the options specified</u> <u>in the parameter for initiating 123 the call towards the ported domain (or the new</u> <u>service provider)</u>."

In other words, Madour uses the SIP protocol <u>for providing the portability of</u> <u>internet addresses.</u>   Madour does **not** use for the SIP protocol for <u>providing the</u> <u>portability of directory numbers</u> as required by applicants' claim 1. Thus, Madour does **not** utilize the SIP protocol in the manner recited in applicants' claim 1.

Second, Madour does **not** teach a "provisioning component" as recited in applicants' claim 1. A "provisioning component", as in applicants' claim 1, a) initiates requests to port a directory number for a duration of time to the portability component, b) receives updates from the portability component for one or more directory numbers ported to the network, and c) notify the subscriber databases of the directory number to port for the duration of time. Since Madour does **not** define a component with such functions, Madour is missing the "provisioning component" element, as recited in applicants' claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that Madour does not describe each and every element of claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is not anticipated by Madour. Since claims 2-17 and 22-26 depend from allowable claim 1, these claims are also allowable over Madour.

Independent claims 18 and 21 each have limitations similar to that of independent claim 1, which was shown are not taught by Madour. For example, claim 18 recites, "automatically updating, via a portability component that runs on a hardware component, one or more provisioning components to port a directory number for a duration of time; and communicating with a management component through employment of one or more protocols to update one or more local number portability databases, at least one of the one or more protocols being a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)" and claim 21 recites "means in the one or more media for automatically updating one or more provisioning components to port a directory number for a duration of time; and means in the one or more media for communicating with a management component through employment of one or more protocols to update one or more local number portability databases, at least one of the one or more protocols being a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)". Madour does **not** teach these limitations for the above-mentioned reasons. Therefore, claims 18 and 21 are likewise allowable over Madour. Since claims 19-20 depend from claim 18, these dependent claims are also allowable over Madour.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Rejection Under Madour, Mazzarella and Moss

Claims 2-17, 19-20 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Madour in view of U. S. Patent Number 6,819,921 issued to Mazzarella et al. on November 16, 2004 and in view of U. S. Patent Number 6,785,372 issued to Moss on August 31, 2004.

Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection for the following reasons.

As stated hereinabove, Madour does **not** teach the limitations of applicants' claim 1 because Madour does **not** use the SIP protocol in the manner required by applicants' claim 1. Also, as stated in the Final Office Action, Mazzarella and Moss do **not** teach or suggest a portability component that communicates with a management component through employment of a Session Initiation Protocol. Thus, Madour, Mazzarella and Moss are missing the "wherein the portability component communicates with a management component through employment of one or more protocols to update one or more local number portability databases, at least one of the one or more protocols being a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)" elements, as recited in applicants' claim 1.

Therefore the proposed combination of Madour, Mazzarella and Moss does not teach or suggest all of the limitations in applicants' claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is allowable over the proposed combination. Since claims 2-17 and 22-26 depend from allowable claim 1, these claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

Independent claims 18 and 21 each have limitations similar to that of independent claim 1, which was shown are not taught by the proposed combination of Madour, Mazzarella and Moss. For example, claim 18 recites, "automatically updating, via a portability component that runs on a hardware component, one or more provisioning components to port a directory number for a duration of time; and communicating with a management component through employment of one or more protocols to update one or more local number portability databases, at least one of the one or more protocols being a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)" and claim 21 recites "means in the one or more media for automatically updating one or more provisioning components to port a directory number for a duration of time; and means in the one or

more media for communicating with a management component through employment of one or more protocols to update one or more local number portability databases, at least one of the one or more protocols being a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)". The proposed combination of Madour, Mazzarella and Moss does **not** teach or suggest these limitations for the above-mentioned reasons. Therefore, claims 18 and 21 are likewise allowable over the proposed combination. Since claims 19-20 depend from claim 18, these dependent claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

Rejection Under Madour and Petrunka

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Madour in view of U. S. Patent Number 6,584,193 issued to Petrunka et al. on June 24, 2003.

Applicants respectfully traverse these grounds of rejection.

This rejection is based on the rejection under Madour, Mazzarella and Moss being proper. As that ground of rejection has been overcome, and none of the cited references teach or suggest "wherein the portability component communicates with a management component through employment of one or more protocols to update one or more local number portability databases, at least one of the one or more protocols being a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)", as recited in applicants' independent claim 1, or "communicating with a management component through employment of one or more protocols to update one or more local number portability databases, at least one of the one or more protocols being a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)" as recited in applicants' independent claim 18 or "means in the one or more media for communicating with a management component through employment of one or more protocols to update one or more local number portability databases, at least one of the one or more protocols being a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)" as recited in applicants' independent claim 21, the combination of Madour and Petrunka does **not** supply these missing elements. Thus, this combination does **not** make obvious any of applicants' claims, all of which require the aforesaid limitations.
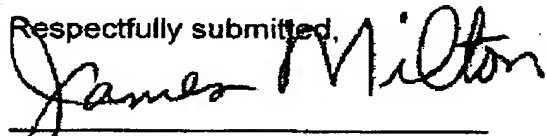
Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the Office Action's rejections have been overcome and that this application is now in condition for allowance.   Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested.   If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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